

Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body

Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE – Governor's Forest Health Council

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

**July 9, 2009
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Eagle Room
Rocky Mountain Research Station
Southwest Forest Science Complex at NAU
Flagstaff, Arizona**

Meeting Objective: To receive an update by State Forestry on which projects were chosen for the Supplemental Fuels funding and to review the signed FHC Executive Order, to receive an update and have a discussion on the Four Forests Restoration Initiative, to receive an update from the WUI Fire Code working group, to review the FHC work plan and discuss Action Items that still need attention, and to further discuss the progress of the Scorecard and the potential progress report.

1) Call to Order

Ethan A., Steve R., Rob D., Steve G., Larry S., Vicki C., Molly P., Mark B., Rob S., Ron W., Darrell W., Edward S., Don B., Edward S., Rep. Thomas C. via tele-conference, Pete F.

2) Approval of the Minutes from the June FHC Meeting ~Approved

- a. Group agreed to send 'thank you' to Diana for years of service. Commerce Dept. HR will have to provide address directly for legal reasons. Molly to advise KO when they need it.
- b. Discussed need for consistent representation if not primary in attendance, alternate needs to be consistent.
- c. Working on filling in the gaps on council as far as complete representation on all sectors. Tribal representation is currently in discussion.

3) State Forestry Division Update ~ Vicky Christensen & Glen Buettner

- a. Supplemental Fuels Funding: Received list of Grant status as of 7/8/09.
 - i. \$392,540 Awarded for Supplemental Hazardous Fuel Projects on Non-Federal Land
 1. Beaver Valley WFHF Project, Bonita Creek Perimeter, Chaparral Pines Firewise Project, Kozin(Tusayan), Loma Sabino Hazardous Fuels Project, RGC/260 Hazardous Fuel Reduction(RimGolf)
 - ii. \$3,831,153 In Process-Preliminary Funding Approved-in document exchange phase
 1. ASFD Flagstaff, ASFD Flagstaff White Mtns, Coconino County, Flagstaff Hazardous Fuels Project, Forest Lakes Fire Risk Mitigation, Greer; A Firewise Comm., Hellsgate Hazard Fuels Program, Hidden Valley Fuels Mitigation Project, Highland Pines Community, NAU, Payson Fire Department, Pine Strawberry Hazardous Fuel Project.
 - iii. \$1,400,000 additional after ARRA for hazardous fuel projects
 1. City of Show Low, Groom Creek/Crown King Fire Districts, Government Canyon(Lynx Creek State Land and City of Prescott Communication Sties), Drake Wood to Energy-Yavapai & Gila Co.
 - iv. Note, there is some overlap in monies allocation with the ARRA and that is currently being sorted out.
- b. A better understanding and scope of projects referenced above was suggested by council. A brief summary on each will be provided by the AZ State Forestry Division in the next few weeks via email. Also, a suggestion from members for field trips to sites where treatment is administered. Prescott has been suggested in October. Inviting speakers to give presentations on these initiatives will also be part of future meetings.

- c. FHC Executive Order
 - i. Press Release on June EO sent out 7/9/09. Electronic copy sent to members by KO on 7/10.
 - ii. Detailed discussion on EO to confirm that council's focus is still inline with EO.

- d. Assessment Project Status

- i. Presentation on AZ Assessment & Strategic Plan due June 2010.
Three strategic initiatives can be broken down to: *Conserve Forest Landscapes; Protect Forests from Harm; Enhance Public Benefits from Trees & Forests*. **Focus, Priority, and Outcome** will be the guidelines to achieve a comprehensive strategy and plan with accountability reporting measures.

- Goals need to be inline with EO, in order to keep goals consistent and to quantify accomplishments in the future.

- Steve Gatewood has been nominated to be part of the assessment task force group. FHC will provide input as a group and as individuals with particular areas of expertise are needed. Steve will send an email to solicit feedback/participation prior to September FHC meeting.

- 4) **Update/Discussion Regarding the Four Forests Restoration Initiative** ~ Ethan Aumack

- a. Document created on recommendation on 5/29 and is under consideration. From that, on 7/8, a group reconvened at the Forest Supervisor's Office, general sense it was a good meeting and direction being established to move on with accelerated restoration. Five working groups established. August 10 & 11 working sessions & groups still open for participation. On-going agenda item, update and status to be discussed in September to include update of working session progress from August.

- 5) **Update Regarding WUI Fire Code Working Group** ~ Ron Williams

- a. Participation response has been very encouraging, still intent on getting more involvement and capturing broader interest. Presentations from; The AZ State Fire Marshall, The AZ State Forester, AIC and others. Good support from FHC members.
 - b. Event 7/16 at Mazatzal Hotel & Casino, Payson, AZ 10:00am-3:00pm

- 6) **FHC Work plan Review and Update**~ Ethan Aumack

- a. Cross reference and review of 2008 Work plan Action Items to 2009 Executive Order— moving forward FHC work plan initiatives need to be inline and remain consistent with Statewide Assessment and EO in order to achieve success and show accomplishment. This will be a topic of further discussion later this fall on how best to show results from Council. General consensus is that EO still matches up to FHC Action Items. Priorities discussed and remain:
 - i. Four Forest Initiative
 - ii. Statewide Assessment- Working Group to be established after Steve reports back in September on progress of first phase of development of the plan.
 - iii. Scorecard- Consistency w/reporting of Statewide Assessment
 - iv. FHC holds liaison role with governor reiterated in EO #9
 - v. Climate Change
 - 1. Lengthy conversation on this topic and also noted on EO #7 as a specific area.
 - 2. This will be an ongoing conversation and incorporated into other agendas. No immediate action will be taken but as ongoing awareness, education and focus is given, it will segue into more forward thinking on this issue.
 - 3. In future, a white paper should be created on Climate Change.
 - a. Incorporate Universities
 - b. Identify additional resources participants
 - c. Integrate climate change into working plan on statewide assessment

- vi. Discussion on collaboration efforts possible additional presentations commencing in September/October. A letter will be sent from Ethan & Molly on behalf of the council inviting others to present at upcoming meeting for purpose of education to FHC staff and how to be sensitive to and incorporate in this issue moving forward.
- vii. Ongoing discussion will continue on how to quantify the FHC's accomplishments.

7) Discuss FHC Website~Molly Pitts

- a. Website is old and out of date, needs refreshing.
- b. Vicki & Molly will provide updated content to KO at Dept. of Commerce for portion that we have access to on commerce site and the state site- <http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>
- c. For separate URL (www.azforests.org), they will work with NAU to get rights to control content and website.

8) Update/Discussion on Progress of Statewide Scorecard and Progress Report~ Steve Gatewood & Molly Pitts

- a. Molly and Steve to begin conceptual work on specific progress report and have ready for September review, can include success of WUI Conference on 7/16 as an initiative that came to fruition.
- b. Get Vicki C. input to make sure all is covered and again consistent with how reporting will play out for the statewide assessment.
- c. Target for later '09 with concrete report on tangible accomplishments. Coincide with legislation.

9) Meeting Schedule and Locations

- a. August- No Meeting
- b. September 10, 2009- County Supervisors Building- Phoenix, Arizona

10) Call to the Public

This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.

Dated this July 14, 2009
Governor's Forest Health Council
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

CO-CHAIRS

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust
Molly Pitts, Northern Arizona Wood Products Association

Person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Krista Olson-Blundell 602-771-1160 or kristao@azcommerce.com. Requests should be made as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.